

HONORING NATIONAL NURSES  
WEEK

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 2, 2001*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 2.7 million registered nurses in the United States. I encourage our nation to join me in celebrating their dedication and commitment to the health care needs of America during National Nurses Week. This year it begins on May 6 and ends on May 12, which is Florence Nightingale's birthday.

Professional nurses are an indispensable component in the safety and quality of care of hospitalized patients. The depth and breadth of the nursing profession consistently meet the different and emerging health care needs of the American population in a wide range of settings. These settings include hospitals, home care, clinics, offices, extended care centers, schools, military service, corporations, and hospice among others. Indeed, our nurses touch all of our lives in a positive way.

National Nurses Week was first celebrated in 1954 on the 100th anniversary of Florence Nightingale's mission to Crimea. Nurses have continually been recognized for their outstanding contributions to the American health care system ever since. Nurses today represent women and men from all walks of life, and reflect the people who live in the communities that they serve. Employment among nurses will grow faster than the average for all occupations through 2006, and nurses will become increasingly important as the demographics of our country change dramatically in coming years.

The theme of this year's week is "Nurses are the True Spirit of Caring." The theme could not be more appropriate. These individuals blend a scientific mind, technological know-how, compassionate heart, and helping hands in their day-to-day caring of patients.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we recognize and celebrate National Nurses Week with America's 2.7 million nurses. These special individuals truly do embody the spirit of caring.

RESPECT FOR ILO CORE LABOR  
STANDARDS IN THE GLOBAL  
ECONOMY

**HON. GEORGE MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 2, 2001*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of efforts of the International Labor Organization (ILO) to ensure that the core labor standards are applied and enforced in every workplace around the world. The international community has defined these four core labor standards: (1) freedom of association and collective bargaining; (2) prohibition of forced labor; (3) prohibition of child labor; and (4) prohibition of workplace discrimination.

These labor standards are the most basic and fundamental rights of workers everywhere, and almost every government in the

world has pledged to uphold them. Yet many governments, including our own, too often turn a blind eye when these fundamental rights are violated.

Too many workers around the world face illegal firings, death threats and even assassination when they try to utilize their freedom of association by joining a union. Last year alone, more than 100 union leaders in Colombia were murdered, and the Colombian government has granted the perpetrators of these assassinations virtual impunity. Closer to home, every year an estimated 10,000 American workers are fired just for exercising their right to join a union.

Long after the abolition of slavery, forced labor has now resurfaced in the global economy. Too many women and men are tricked into debt schemes and then forced into indentured servitude, as we continue to see happening under the American Flag in places like the Northern Mariana Islands and most recently in American Samoa. And let us be clear: these kinds of abuses, deceptive labor practices, often involving foreign nationals seeking to improve their lives by migrating to the United States, are not uncommon on the U.S. mainland, either.

Too many children still spend their days in front of a sewing machine instead of in front of a desk in a school. And too many completely qualified individuals are still fired simply because of their race, sex, age, religion or sexual orientation.

Our challenge is to actually enforce the fundamental rights that have been agreed to by all of the member nations of the ILO. And the first step in enforcement is ensuring that workers, employers and communities across the globe are aware of the fundamental labor rights. That is why I rise today in favor of the ILO's global campaign to hang this poster, which simply lists the four core labor standards, in every workplace in every country of the world.

This poster alone is not a substitute for trade agreements that enforce the core labor standards, but it is an important start. Those multinational corporations that subject their employees to poverty wages and dangerous working conditions are only going to change those practices when all of their employees know about these rights and have the ability to demand them within the legal process.

REMARKS DELIVERED BY THE  
REV. GEORGE F. LUNDY, S.J., ON  
HIS INAUGURATION AS PRESIDENT OF WHEELING JESUIT UNIVERSITY

**HON. ALAN B. MOLLOHAN**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 2, 2001*

Mr. MOLLOHAN. Mr. Speaker, I recently joined the Wheeling Jesuit University community in celebrating the inauguration of the Rev. George F. Lundy, S.J., as the university's sixth president. It was a pleasure to help welcome this thoughtful, highly regarded educator to the Wheeling Jesuit campus.

Father Lundy's leadership of Wheeling Jesuit University follows successful assignments at the University of Detroit Mercy, where he was academic vice president and provost, and

at Loyola University of New Orleans, where his tenure included service as acting president.

He brings to the Wheeling campus the benefits of his experience at these institutions, as well as personal qualities which include a high level of enthusiasm, a commitment to the enrichment of young minds, and a passion for service to the greater community.

These qualities were evidenced in the remarks that Father Lundy delivered March 16 at his inauguration ceremony. His words were a source of insight into the challenges that face modern educational institutions, and the commitments that they must meet if they are to succeed in today's world.

Therefore, I submit Father Lundy's inaugural speech to be included in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

The remarks follow:

First, I'd like to thank all of you for taking so much time out of your busy schedules to join this great celebration today. Certainly, it's a personal celebration for me, but even more so, I think it's a celebration for the entire Wheeling Jesuit University community, the city of Wheeling, and the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston.

It's very humbling, too, to think of all of the hoopla that is paid when we inaugurate new presidents. I was reminded of Jimmy Carter's idea when he was running for President, that the teachers ought to get more pay than the principals because they do the work that is so much more important, and I certainly feel that way about our fine faculty here at WJU. So, this is for all of us.

It is a time when we collectively renew a number of commitments that are very much a part of the fabric and the genius of our history. First, we renew our commitment to all of our students, to provide you with a great education in the Catholic and Jesuit traditions. We challenge you to read real books, to your own deep understanding of our world, its past and its present, so that you can help shape it in the future. We challenge you to deepen your values of justice and compassion, your abilities to choose wisely, and your skills to communicate with clarity and passion.

We will continue to care deeply for each of you as a unique human being and encourage you to see in every person a child of God with dignity, hopes and dreams. We pray that you will develop a passion for what we Jesuits call a preferential option for the poor, so that you will graduate with a commitment and the skills to help the least advantaged among us realize their hopes and dreams.

And, of course, it is not enough to renew that commitment without sharing a few things with our visitors that you are already doing. We recognize the students who went down to Moorhead, Kentucky, over break to build houses, and the students who live in the Mother Jones house downtown and work extensively in the community, student teaching in the social services centers, the soup kitchen and much more. Just a few examples of the ways that our students are engaged, and we believe that this kind of integral education is the kind that represents our best hope for future leadership.

Every time I talk about the high idealism of Jesuit education, I am reminded of what one former Provincial said at the big Jesuit higher ed gathering at Georgetown a number of years ago. He said, "you know, all this lofty stuff about high idealism is great, but what you have to remember is that the reason Jesuit schools got started was because there was this tremendous need for somebody to take care of unruly boys."